

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A rotatable child safety seat mounting apparatus for use in combination with a vehicular child safety seat,
5 said rotatable mounting apparatus comprising:

(a) a base means having an upper surface, a front end, a rear end, and opposing sides connecting said front and rear ends, said base means further including an elongated aperture extending therethrough from said upper
10 surface to said lower surface, with said aperture having a longitudinal axis extending substantially parallel to said sides, and a lateral axis extending substantially parallel to said front and rear ends, with said longitudinal axis being longer than said lateral axis, said base means further
15 including a first guide means disposed on said upper surface thereof, and a releasable lock means; and

(b) an interface means that is removably and rotatably engageable with said base means, said interface means having a mating means extending from a lower surface
20 thereof, said mating means being configured for operable, slidable, and rotatable engagement with said aperture to thereby removably secure said interface means to said base means, said interface means further including a second guide means on said lower surface thereof that is matingly
25 engageable with said first guide means such that relative rotational motion between said interface means and said base means while said first and second guide means are operably engaged with one another, causes said interface means to progressively displace towards said front end of said base
30 means, an upper surface of said interface means being specifically configured to operably and retainably receive said vehicular child safety seat thereto.

2. A rotatable mounting apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said first guide means is a first protrusion that is configured for mating engagement with said second guide means.

5 3. A rotatable mounting apparatus as in claim 2 wherein said second guide means is a channel formed in said interface means, the channel having a substantially parabolic shape in a plane parallel to said lower surface of said interface means, with the parabolic shape of the
10 channel having an apex disposed toward a rear end of said interface means, and respective distal ends of the parabolic channel being disposed toward a front end of said interface means.

4. A rotatable mounting apparatus as in claim 3
15 wherein said substantially parabolic second guide means includes a radial channel portion extending radially from the apex toward said front end of said interface means.

5. A rotatable mounting apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said releasable lock means releasably engages said
20 mating means in said elongated aperture, said lock means include biasing means which bias said lock means to a lock position, and manual release means coupled to said biasing means and said locked means, said manual release means having an actuator for selectively applying compressive
25 force to said biasing means, thereby moving said coupled lock means to an unlocked position and, correspondingly, disengaging said lock means from said mating means.

6. A rotatable mounting apparatus as in claim 5 wherein said actuator is handle disposed adjacent to said
30 front end of said base means.

7. A rotatable mounting apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said mating means comprises a second protrusion

having a proximal portion and a distal portion, with said proximal portion being disposed adjacent to said lower surface of said interface means, and a detachable flanged member that is selectively securable to said distal portion
5 of said second protrusion, said flanged member having a diameter that is larger than said lateral axis of said aperture, such that said flanged member retains said interface means in juxtaposition with said base means by operably contacting said lower surface of said base means
10 when said flanged member is operably engaged with said second protrusion.

8. A rotatable mounting apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said base means and said interface means are fabricated from polymeric materials.

15 9. A rotatable mounting apparatus as in claim 1, including safety retention means coupled to said base means and selectively engageable with said upper surface of said interface means for operably retaining said interface means in juxtaposition with said base means, said safety retention
20 means extending upwardly from said rear end of said base means and including a retention portion extending substantially horizontally from an upstanding portion thereof, such that said safety retention means is configured to operably grasp said interface means between said
25 retention portion and said upper surface of said base means.

10. A rotatable mounting apparatus as in claim 9 wherein said safety retention means is integrally formed with said base means.

11. A rotatable mounting apparatus as in claim 1,
30 including harnessing means extending upwardly from said interface means, said harnessing means having at least one tie aperture formed in a portion thereof above said upper

surface of said interface means, such that one or more tie straps may be operably threaded through such tie aperture to thereby operably anchor such one or more tie straps to said interface means.

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